

REMARKS

Claims 22 and 25 have been amended. Claims 22-27 are still pending.

Irwin

Claims 22-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by USP 4,632,138 to Irwin ("Irwin"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 22 has been to recite, among other limitations, that the frame member is collapsible to the folded position by twisting and folding to form a plurality of concentric rings to substantially reduce the size of the support frame in the folded position. In contrast, none of the frame members in Irwin can be collapsible to the folded position by twisting and folding to form a plurality of concentric rings to substantially reduce the size of the frame in the folded position. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claim 22, and claims 23-24 depending therefrom, are allowable over Irwin.

Brady

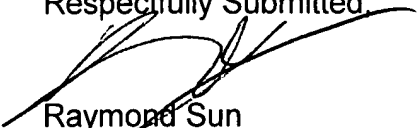
Claims 25-26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by USP 5,137,044 to Brady ("Brady"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 25 has been to recite, among other limitations, that the covering is placed over but does not enclose the support frame when the support frame is in the unfolded orientation. In contrast, the covering 30 in Brady is a carrying case that is "placed over" the structure and its support frames when these support frames are in their folded orientation. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claim 25, and claims 26-27 depending therefrom, are allowable over Brady.

* * *

In light of the above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 22-27 are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is encouraged to phone the undersigned if there are informal matters that can be resolved in a phone conversation or by Examiner's Amendment.

Respectfully Submitted



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper and its enclosures are being deposited with the United States Postal service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

Date: December 24, 2003

By: 
Raymond Sun